Half-chackram embossed covers were introduced and the introduction of the four cash service stamps was sanctioned. The receipts of the Anchal Department amounted to Rs. 1,89,954, while the cost of working the department was Rs. 1,74,849. It will be thus seen that the department is now more than self-supporting.

PUBLIC HEALTH.

34. **Vaccination.**—The total number of vaccinations performed during the year fell from 2,40,313 to 2,19,631, of which as many as 1,92,005 were primary vaccinations. The number of cases verified by the inspecting staff also fell from 81,113 to 61,198; but in this case the fall was only nominal, as the cases vaccinated in the presence of the inspecting officers were left out of account. The number of infants successfully vaccinated rose from 9,589 to 12,648. Vaccination is now compulsory in seven municipal towns. The question of introducing compulsory vaccination in some more towns is under the consideration of the Government.

35. **Town Improvement Committees.**— The number of towns constituted under the Towns Conservancy and Improvement Regulation remained the same, *viz.*, 19. The rate-payers of the towns of Nagercoil, Trivandrum, Quilon, Alleppey, Kottayam, Shencottah and Kayankulam continued to enjoy the privilege of electing all the non-official members of those Committees. The administration of the town of Alleppey under its non-official President was highly satisfactory. The question of appointing non-official Presidents to some other towns is engaging the attention of Government. The Committees began with a balance of Rs. 49,218, and their collections rose from Rs. 80,224 to Rs. 93,997. Including the Government grant of Rs. 45,338, the total amount available for expenditure was Rs. 1,88,553, of which a sum of Rs. 1,29,265 was spent, leaving a balance of Rs. 59,288 at the close of the year. The Government are watching the working of these Committees with interest, and where necessary, they will have no objection to granting additional powers to the Committees.

EDUCATION.

36. **Statistics.**—Including unrecognised schools, the total number of educational institutions in the State during 1090 was 3,243 and their strength 3,06,753. The percentage of pupils in all denominations of schools to the total population was 8·9 and to the number of children of school-going age 59·6. There was on an average one recognised school for every 3·5 square miles of the area and for every 1,684 persons of the population of the State. 73·2 per cent of the boys and 29 per cent of the girls of school-going age were under instruction in recognised schools. Devicolam is the only taluk with less than 30 per cent of its children of school-going age attending school, while Tiruvalla, which takes the second rank among the taluks of the State in point of population, shows the greatest progress, with 99·8 per cent of its children of school-going age attending recognised schools. In this connection, it will be of interest to you to know that the last Administration Report of Baroda states that "Travancore deservedly represents the highest water-mark yet obtained in India by the voluntary principle in education."

37. **Personnel.**—In the place of Dr. Bishop, who proceeded to England on leave preparatory to retirement, Mr. L. C. Hodgson was appointed to act as Director of Public Instruction, and in place of Mr. Hodgson, Mr. A. R. Rajaraja Varma was appointed to act as the Principal of His Highness the Maha Raja's College. The status of Mr. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, Personal Assistant to the Director, was raised and he was appointed Deputy Director of Public Instruction. The Deputy Director is expected to devote special attention to the development and improvement of elementary education. Occasion was taken by this appointment, to reduce the ranges of elementary schools from three to two, temporarily. Mr. B. Walker, M. A., was appointed Additional Professor of English in His Highness the Maha Raja's College, but he has not yet joined duty. Dr. S. G. Barker, appointed Vice-Principal of the Training College, entered on his duties about the middle of 1090.

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